



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD**

*PO Box 40927, Olympia, WA 98504-0927*  
*(360) 407-1050*

**MINUTES**  
**Office of the Attorney General**  
**800- 5th Ave. 20th FL**  
**Seattle, WA 98104**

July 7, 2008

**ROLL CALL Members Present:**

Anmarie Aylward  
Ida Ballasiotes  
Dave Boerner  
Sheriff Mark Brown  
Brooke Burbank  
Jeri Costa  
Andrew E. Neiditz  
Andrea Piper  
Brad Meryhew  
Dr. Henry Richards  
Kecia Rongen  
Russ Hauge  
Mary Ellen Stone

**Members Absent**

Maureen Saylor  
John Koster  
Bev Emery

**Staff Present**

Jean Soliz-Conklin  
Andi May  
Stevie Peterson

**Others Present:**

Joanne Arlow, Policy Director, Washington Association of Sheriff and Police Chiefs (WASPC); Joe Hawe, US Marshal Western Washington; Supervisory Deputy Tom Lanier, US Marshal; John Lane, Executive Policy, Office of the Governor; Bernard Ryan, Counsel, Senate Democratic Caucus; Tom Sahlberg, Member, Indeterminate Sentencing Review Board (ISRB); Jennifer Strus, Senior Counsel, Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee (SCS)

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Dave Boerner at 1:10 p.m. as a continuation of the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **II. INTRODUCTIONS**

Board members and attendees introduced themselves.

## **III. ROLE OF THE SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD**

Mary Ellen Stone began a brief discussion of the role of the Board to set the framework before the election of a Board chair. The members agreed that it is important to stay tuned to the message to the community as officers are elected, i.e. is the Board focused on criminal justice, victims' advocacy, or both? Is the board agency or community oriented, or both?

Russ Hauge explained the evolution of the Sex Offender Policy Board idea and suggested the Board not limit itself to as specific constituency in setting its role. Mary Ellen Stone agreed, suggesting that the Board consider valuing and acknowledging different perspectives as a good guiding principle. A consensus was reached to elect a chair and a vice chair from different constituencies, after the bylaws were adopted.

## **IV. ADOPTION OF INTERIM BYLAWS**

The Board adopted the interim bylaws, after ascertaining that the discussion in the last meeting provided sufficient information. **(See Exhibit A)**

### **MOTION # 1 APPROVAL OF THE BYLAWS**

**Moved:** Anmarie Aylward

**Seconded:** Jeri Costa

**PASSED: Unanimously**

## **V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The Board elected a chair and vice-chair, in accordance with the bylaws.

### **MOTION # 2 SHERIFF MARK BROWN NOMINATED RUSS HAUGE TO BE CHAIR**

**Moved:** Andrew Neiditz

**Seconded:** Jeri Costa

**PASSED: Unanimously**

### **MOTION # 3 JERI COSTA NOMINATED ANDREA PIPER TO BE VICE CHAIR**

**Moved:** Jeri Costa

**Seconded:** Andrew Neiditz

**PASSED: Unanimously**

Acting Chair, Sentencing Guidelines Chairman David Boerner, turned the meeting over to Chairman Hauge.

## **VI. MEMBER TERMS**

Staff summarized the provisions of SSB 6596 regarding staggered terms for members, after which the Board members decided to stagger the terms accordingly, as follows:

- Washington State Superior Court Judge's Association (SCJA) - 1 year term
- Washington State Association of Counties (AWC) - 1 year term
- Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) - 2 year term.
- Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (WACDL) - 2 year term.
- Association of Washington of Cities (AWC) - 2 year term
- Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (WAPA) - 3 year term
- Washington Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) - 3 year term
- Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs (WCSAP) - 3 year term

The discussion clarified that the purpose of staggering terms is to ensure maintenance of experience and appointing agencies are free to reappoint a member.

## **VII. BOARD DUTIES**

Using a spreadsheet provided by staff, the Board discussed their duties and how they may want to approach them. Staff pointed out that the duties are quite intensive and that they vary greatly. The Board was asked to keep in mind the workload and staffing levels within the legislated timeframes. Russ Hauge cautioned the members to be careful about obligating the Board to anything in addition to what is already assigned.

### **(1) Staying apprised of best practices and community education – Ranked as an O (Ongoing Function)**

The Board agreed that the duty to stay apprised would require a "New Information" agenda item at each meeting. Brad Meryhew pointed out that the Board should use its meetings and actions to help the public understand the realities and actual numbers regarding sex offenses. Andrew Neiditz thought a look at data would help jurisdictions understand where sex offenders live and whether they are concentrated in particular areas. Mary Ellen Stone suggested that sexual assault providers could help with community education.

Russ Hauge said that housing is a critical issue, and one the Governor has asked the Board to make recommendations on. Jeri Costa suggested the Board hear presenters as one way to ascertain best practices.

**(2) Case Reviews – Ranked as a Number 1 priority (Begin Immediately)**

Russ Hauge suggested the members get busy early to take control of the case review function, because the legislation may serve as an invitation for a wealth of requests. The Board discussed developing a methodology for establishing priorities and reviewing requests so as to stay focused and manage workload. Mary Ellen Stone suggested that a subcommittee be formed soon to come up with process suggestions to the Board.

Jeri Costa suggested the Board consider awaiting finalization of any court action before reviewing cases. The group agreed to review the statute and bylaws to determine the feasibility of that type of process restriction, and to develop standards and review criteria.

Ida Ballasiotes said she would like to be able to review SSOSA cases, too. Andrew Neiditz suggested there be a process by which the Board can say “No” to reviewing cases.

**(3) Performance Measurement - Ranked as an 3 (Begin in the spring)**

The Board asked for more information on how the state measures performance. Russ Hauge said the Board’s approach needs to use language and processes that are easily understood by a reasonably well-informed public. Brad Meryhew said that performance measures can be integrated as each function is developed, starting in subcommittees. Mary Ellen Stone said that the Board may want to keep in mind “What do regular people want to know?” because the fundamental question to be answered is what does the system look like and how well it is working? Jeri Costa explained that the workplan due to the legislature in December can map out a procedure, but it does not have to have the developed plan at that time.

**(4) Assessing and Communicating Best Practices - Ranked as an O (Ongoing Function)**

This task is linked with the first duty (staying apprised of best practices) and must be fully staffed before it will begin. Information sessions will likely occur in each meeting. The Board will eventually be able to identify and recommend best practices.

**(5) Forum for Discussion of Issues- Ranked as an O (Ongoing Function)**

Whether and how Washington will follow the Adam Walsh Act is an example of an issue that needs to be discussed in a cross-agency forum.

**(6) Annual Workplan- Ranked as an O (Ongoing Function)**

The discussion of duties is first step developing the workplan.

**(7) Annual Report to the Legislature on SOPB Progress – Ranked as a Number 1 priority (Begin Immediately)**

Russ Hauge said that he will draft fellow members to help with this process.

**(8) Review of Adult and Juvenile Sex Offender Registration laws (per 2SHB 2714) – Ranked as a Number 2 priority (Begin in fall)**

The Chairman asked for a presentation on this legislation at the next meeting. The group agreed that a juvenile subcommittee would be useful on this topic.

**(9) Governor Gregoire's Request: Housing Options for Sex Offenders - Ranked as a Number 2 priority (Begin in fall)**

The group agreed that a housing subcommittee would be useful on this topic.

The Board continued the discussion of duties until the next meeting.

**VIII. STAFF REPORT**

Jean, who will supervise the Board staff, explained the options for creating a professional staff position to support the Board. After some discussion it was decided the Board would benefit most from hiring a high-level exempt position. No budget discussions were held.

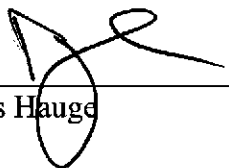
**IX. MEETING SCHEDULE**

Members decided to create a meeting schedule at the next meeting.

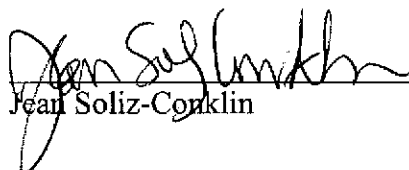
**X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by our new chair Russ Hauge at 3.35 p.m.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Russ Hauge

11/14/08  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jean Soliz-Conklin

11/14/08  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date